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Item 105
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

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Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 13 June 2013 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to draw your attention to the following information:

On Wednesday, 12 June 2013, in continuation of the slaughter of innocent civilians by armed terrorist groups, the Al-Nusrah Front added yet more carnage to its record when it committed a fresh massacre in the village of Hatla, which is located in the Dayr al-Zawr countryside, killing dozens of civilians, the majority of whom were women and children. The victims were killed for their refusal to support the terrorists in committing criminal acts against innocent civilians. The terrorists also vandalized and looted civilians' property and burned their homes, and they attacked, desecrated and looted houses of worship. Social networking sites posted video clips that prove the Al-Nusrah Front perpetrated this massacre, the commission of which was encouraged by Shafi al-Ajami, a *salafist, takfirist* religious leader in Kuwait, who has dispatched and funded thousands of jihadist terrorists to support the Al-Nusrah Front and other armed terrorist groups in Syria. The media have broadcast his statements in which he agitates for strife, hatred and killing in Syria.

In a series of letters addressed to you, the Syrian Arab Republic has assiduously sought to draw your attention the danger posed by the spread of extremism and terrorism, and has documented the crimes committed by the armed groups. The Syrian Arab Republic stresses that the refusal of certain countries to allow the Security Council to condemn the many terrorist crimes that have been committed in Syria has encouraged the armed terrorist groups to continue committing crimes against innocent civilians, including the perpetration of massacres, the indiscriminate firing of mortar shells at civilian areas and suicide bombings. The terrorists have also targeted residential buildings, the State's service, teaching and educational institutions, hospitals and Muslim and Christian houses of worship, and they have assassinated and abducted Muslim and Christian religious

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leaders, ransacked and destroyed ancient monuments and museums, vandalized tombs and abducted peacekeepers of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force. Such actions are in keeping with the terroristic, *salafist* method that Al-Qaida has diligently pursued.

Certain States of the region and from outside it, the foremost of which are Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Turkey, are continuing to directly and openly support terrorism in Syria by providing funding, arms, training and safe havens for the armed terrorist groups. Those actions, as well as the recent European decision to end the prohibition on arming the "opposition" that was adopted under pressure from Britain and France, are a grave violation of the legal obligations arising from Security Council resolutions and international instruments concerning counter-terrorism. The European Union decision to authorize the purchase of Syrian oil, which the armed terrorist groups steal and then sell in order to buy arms and military equipment, is yet another violation of the European States' commitment to suppress the financing of terrorism and contrary to all relevant international resolutions, foremost of which is Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

The Syrian Arab Republic once again warns of the dangers of supporting the *takfirist* terrorism espoused by Al-Qaida and executed by the Al-Nusrah Front and its allies the Islamic Brigades and the so-called Free Syrian Army, many units of which have declared their loyalty to the Al-Nusrah Front. It also warns of the dangers of ignoring such terrorism. Syria emphasizes that the continued provision by certain States of arms to the "opposition", or the declaration of a readiness to do so, under the pretext of changing the military balance on the ground, not only constitutes support for terrorism and terrorists, but also lays bare the intention of those States to hinder Syrians from arriving at a political solution under Syrian leadership and in a manner that respects the will and choices of the Syrian people.

By putting these facts before the Security Council, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic is calling on the Council to shoulder its responsibilities under its own resolutions concerning counter-terrorism and to condemn the massacre that occurred Hatla in the Dayr al-Zawr countryside. The Council should also prevail upon those States that are supporting terrorism in Syria to desist from their practices, which are threatening security and stability in Syria and the region.

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 105, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Agenda item 43
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Letter dated 17 June 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 14 June 2013, addressed to you by Mehmet Dânâ, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Y. Halit **Çevik**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 17 June 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 17 May 2013, addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative in New York and circulated as a document of the Security Council (S/2013/300), which contains unfounded claims of "infringements of international air traffic regulations and violations of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by Turkey, as well as the illegal use of closed ports by Turkish warships", and to bring to your kind attention the following.

In response to such pretentious allegations, I wish, once again, to reiterate that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full consent and knowledge of the relevant authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot Administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or right of say whatsoever. It must be stated that assertions of so-called violations of air traffic regulations are unfounded, as the civil aviation authority of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is the sole competent authority to provide air traffic and aeronautical information services within its own national airspace. Similarly, the claim raised in the said letter in relation to Turkish Cypriot ports is also baseless, as the Greek Cypriot Administration has no jurisdiction or right of say over Northern Cyprus. This constitutes yet another attempt aimed at distorting the facts and the realities of the island.

As noted in our previous letters, such allegations are based on the false and unlawful claim that the sovereignty of the Greek Cypriot Administration extends over the whole island, including the territory and national airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. This pretentious contention by the Greek Cypriot side ignores the present realities on the ground, namely, the existence of two independent, self-governing States on the island of Cyprus, each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction within its respective territory.

Continuous attempts by the Greek Cypriot side, through often-repeated false claims, to confer legitimacy upon an illegal Administration are futile since the Turkish Cypriot people will never give in to their unjust demands. What would indeed be conducive to a better atmosphere on the island would be for the Greek Cypriot side to stop misappropriating for itself the rights and responsibilities it does not legally have, and to cease its hostile and derogatory acts against the Turkish Cypriot people.

Moreover, the Greek Cypriot Administration should also be reminded that its counterpart is, and has always been, the Turkish Cypriot side, not Turkey, and that its insistent denial of the Turkish Cypriot rights in the North of the island does not bode well for the prospects of finding a lasting settlement of the Cyprus conflict in line with the established United Nations parameters, which envisage a new partnership on the basis of the political equality of the two peoples of the island within the framework of a bizonal, bicommunal federation with two constituent States of equal status.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I would like to reiterate, once again, the readiness of the Turkish Cypriot side for the earliest commencement of the full-fledged negotiations between the two leaders within the context of a results-oriented

process. It is our considered view that there can be no excuse to further delay the negotiations. We hope that the Greek Cypriot leadership will heed our call for the earliest start of the comprehensive settlement negotiations and pave the way for a fair and durable settlement in Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mehmet **Dânâ**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus